

OUTREACH NOTICE

Gila National Forest Silver City, NM

Visitor Services Information Assistant GS-1001-5



The **Gila National Forest** is seeking a candidate for a **GS-1001-5, Visitor Services Information Assistant** position. This is a permanent position located in Silver City, New Mexico at the Supervisor's Office. This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity. If interested, please send the attached form to Punky Moore, Public Affairs Officer, Gila NF at sjmoore@fs.fed.us by April 26, 2015.

Position

This position is located on the Gila National Forest in Silver City, NM where the incumbent serves as a Visitor Information Assistant at the front desk. The incumbent has the primary responsibility of responding to a variety of inquiries and must be knowledgeable about the different Forest Service policies and processes associated with each inquiry.

The Visitor Information Assistant serves as a collection officer for the sale of forest maps, passes and product permits. Maintains accurate records of sales to account for monies collected; prepares bill for collections, and transfers funds in a timely and accurate manner to lockbox. Prepares or assists in the preparation of informational exhibits which include photos, maps, etc. Monitors newspapers, clips and files articles related to the Forest Service. Makes presentations on subjects such as fire safety, environmental awareness, recreation activities and litter prevention. Maintains inventory of existing publications for public use.

COMMUNITY

Silver City www.townofsilvercity.org and the surrounding communities of Bayard, Santa Clara, Tyrone and Hurley are located in southwest New Mexico. Main access to Silver City is via Highway 180 north from Interstate 10 at Deming, NM. The elevation is 5,900 feet above sea level. The population of Silver City is approximately 13,000 and Grant County is about 29,000. Silver City was recently selected as one of the healthiest places to live and retire. It placed in the top 1% of over 3,000 communities our size or larger. Downtown Silver City is undergoing a revitalization effort and features many locally-owned shops and lots of art galleries. The community has two libraries and churches of all denominations. There are two newspapers, motels, radio stations, city and county offices and local retail businesses.

Climate: Silver City boasts four gentle seasons. The average annual temperature is 54 degrees. May is the driest month of the year while July is the wettest. The annual average precipitation is 15.69 inches.

Cultural and Recreation Opportunities: Recreation facilities include baseball and soccer fields, all-weather track, tennis courts, health and fitness clubs, an indoor and outdoor swimming pools, an 18-hole golf course, a bowling center and parks. Organized youth and adult sports activities are numerous. Trout fishing, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling and camping activities abound. Other area recreation facilities and attractions are: Western New Mexico University Museum <http://www.wnmu.edu/univ/museum.htm>, City of Rocks State Park and Historic Pinos Altos and the 3.3 million acre Gila National Forest.

Special annual events include the Wild Wild West Pro Rodeo, Tour of the Gila Bicycle Race www.tourofthegila.com, Annual Blues Festival, Cowboy Poetry Gathering, San Vicente Artists' Fairs and Tours, Gila Bird and Nature Festival, Billy Casper Golf Classic, Christmas Lighted Parade, 4th of July Celebration, Weekend at the Galleries, Farmer's Market, Grant County Fair, Gem and Mineral Show, and several theatrical and musical presentations at the University Fine Arts Theatre.

Medical: Silver City has a Regional hospital <http://www.grmc.org/>, several medical clinics, ambulance service, an emergency care clinic, and physicians of all specialty areas, dentists and nursing homes.

Schools: Grant County has two public school districts. There are several private schools and alternative schools. Western New Mexico University www.wnmu.edu/ offers four-year programs and two year technical programs in areas such as education, nursing, basic arts and sciences and several graduate programs.

Employment: Major employers are Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Gila Regional Medical Center, Silver City Schools, Western New Mexico University, Walmart, Town of Silver City, Grant County, and the Gila National Forest.

Housing: Rental homes and apartments range from \$600-\$1000 per month for an average three bedroom home/apartment. Prices of single family homes range from \$85,000 and up. Property taxes in Grant County are based on \$18.00 per \$1,000 mill levy.

Transportation: The nearest commercial airports are in El Paso, TX (3 hours), Tucson, AZ (3 hours) and Albuquerque, NM (4 hours). Grant County airport also provides some services with Great Lakes Airlines. There is also a shuttle service for transportation to Las Cruces and El Paso and a local transportation service to all the surrounding communities.

Additional Information: For additional location information visit the following web sites:

Gila National Forest Website – Silver City RD	http://www.fs.usda.gov/gila
Grant County Chamber of Commerce	http://www.silvercity.org
Silver City Chamber of Commerce	http://www.townofsilvercity.org

Gila National Forest

Every National Forest offers its own unique beauty. The Gila's beauty is in its diversity of rugged mountains, deep canyons, meadows, and semi-desert country. It is one of the more remote and least developed National Forests in the southwest. Covering 3.3 million acres of publicly owned forest and range land, the Forest is the sixth largest National Forest in the continental United States. Elevations range from 4,200 to 10,900 feet and cover four of the six life zones. There are 6 ranger districts.

Flora and fauna are diverse. Ocotillo and cactus are found in the lower elevations, and juniper, pine, aspen, and spruce-fir forests are plentiful in the high mountains. Wildlife such as the black bear, mountain lion, elk, deer, antelope, bighorn sheep, and wild turkey inhabit the Forest. Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and red-tailed hawks are also present.

The Forest boasts a rich history of the Mogollon and Apache Indians, Spaniards, Mexicans, ranchers, prospectors and miners. Apache Chiefs Mangas Coloradas, Geronimo, and Victorio; conservationist, ecologist and author of the Sand County Almanac Aldo Leopold; Billy the Kid and other outlaws; and renowned lion hunter Ben Lilly are but a few of the personalities from the past that have left their mark in the Gila.

Another unique beauty of the Gila National Forest is its wilderness. The Gila, Aldo Leopold, and Blue Range Wildernesses offer unparalleled hiking and horseback riding. The 558,065-acre Gila

Wilderness, created in June 1924 at the urging of the great conservation pioneer Aldo Leopold, was the world's first designated wilderness. The Wilderness areas on the Gila comprise a vast, roadless realm astride the Black, Mogollon, Diablo, and Blue mountain ranges, varying from grassland foothills upward through juniper woodland, ponderosa pine, and then spruce-fir forests on the high peaks. Mountain meadows, aspen glades, and spruce forests border on narrow, rock-walled canyons which in some places plunge to depths of more than a thousand feet.

The San Francisco, Gila, and Mimbres Rivers, the Catwalk, Pueblo Park Campground, Gila Cliff Dwellings, Mogollon Baldy, Castle Rock, Eagle Peak Mountain, Emory Pass, and the Burro Mountains are among the many islands of beauty on the Gila. Other areas of interest include Cooney's Tomb, El Caso Lookout Tower, Beaverhead, Reed's Peak, Frisco Hot Springs and Cherry Creek.

Interested in applying for this job?

Please complete the following form and return it to Punky Moore by **April 26, 2015**

Email: sjmoore@fs.fed.us

Phone: 575-388-8211

Fax: 575-388-8204

Snail mail: Punky Moore

Gila National Forest

Supervisor's Office

3005 E. Camino del Bosque

Silver City, NM 88061

OUTREACH NOTICE FORM

Visitor Services Information Assistant
GS-1001-05

NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO: _____

AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH: _____

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: _____ **PERMANENT** _____ **TEMPORARY** _____

OTHER

CURRENT REGION/

FOREST/DISTRICT: _____

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: _____

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: _____

IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER OR CAREER CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES;

_____ **Person with disabilities**

_____ **Veteran's Recruitment Act**

_____ **Disabled Veteran's w/30% compensable disability**

_____ **Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998**

_____ **Former Peace Corps Volunteer**

_____ **Other** _____ **(Please list)**

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!